# Lab #2 Answers

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### **Exercises**

### Exercises with CO<sub>2</sub> Data from the Mauna Loa Observatory

Using the select function, make a new data tibble called mlo\_seas, from the original mlo\_data, which only has two columns: date and co2.seas, where co2.seas is a renamed version of co2.filled.seas from the original tibble.

```
# We only need to load the libraries once and they will be loaded for all
# subsequent code chunks
library(tidyverse)
library(zoo)

mlo_seas = select(mlo_data, date, co2.filled.seas)
mlo_seas = rename(mlo_seas, co2.seas = co2.filled.seas)

# Alternately, you can simplify with the pipe operator:
#
# mlo_seas = select(mlo_data, date, co2.filled.seas) %>% rename(co2.seas = co2.filled.seas)
#
# or you can rename as part of the select operation:
#
# mlo_seas = select(mlo_data, date, co2.seas = co2.filled.seas)
# Display the first few rows:
head(mlo_seas)
## # A tibble: 6 x 2
```

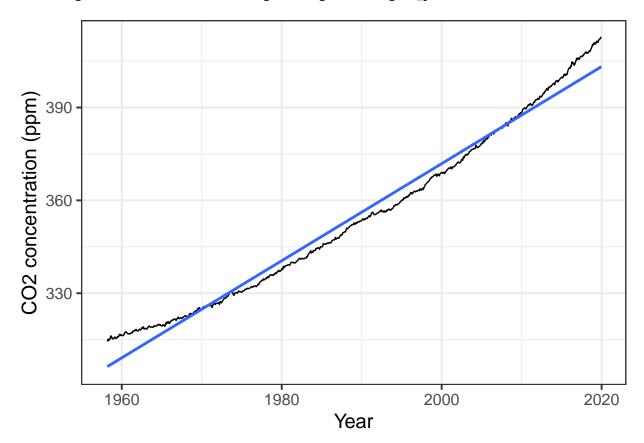
```
##
      date co2.seas
##
     <dbl>
               <dbl>
## 1 1958.
                 NA
## 2 1958.
                 NA
## 3 1958.
                314.
                315.
## 4 1958.
                315.
## 5 1958.
## 6 1958.
                315.
```

Now plot this with co2.seas on the y axis and date on the x axis, and a linear fit:

```
ggplot(mlo_seas, aes(x = date, y = co2.seas)) +
  geom_line() +
```

```
geom_smooth(method="lm") +
labs(x = "Year", y = "CO2 concentration (ppm)")
```

- ## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing non-finite values (stat\_smooth).
- ## Warning: Removed 2 rows containing missing values (geom\_path).



Now fit a linear function to find the annual trend of co2.seas. Save the results of your fit in a variable called trend.seas.

```
trend.seas = lm(co2.seas ~ date, data = mlo_seas)
tidy(trend.seas)
## # A tibble: 2 x 5
##
     term
                 estimate std.error statistic p.value
##
     <chr>>
                               <dbl>
                                          <dbl>
                                                  <dbl>
                            15.5
                                          -179.
                                                      0
## 1 (Intercept) -2765.
                                           202.
## 2 date
                      1.57
                             0.00778
```

Compare the trend you fit to the raw co2.filled data to the trend you fit to the seasonally adjusted data.

**Note:** I just intend students to informally look at the trend in the graph and estimate its slope by eye to compare to the results in trend.seas.

## **Exercises with Global Temperature Data from NASA**

We can also download a data set from NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS), which contains the average global temperature from 1880 through the present.

The URL for the data file is https://data.giss.nasa.gov/gistemp/tabledata\_v4/GLB.Ts+dSST.csv

Download this file and save it in the directory \_data/global\_temp\_land\_sea.csv.

```
download.file(giss_url, file.path(data_dir, "global_temp_land_sea.csv"))
```

- Open the file in Excel or a text editor and look at it.
- Unlike the CO<sub>2</sub> data file, this one has a single line with the data column names, so you can specify col\_names=TRUE in read\_csv instead of having to write the column names manually.
- How many lines do you have to tell read\_csv to skip?

##

Jan

Feb

Mar

**Answer:** 1 line: the first line is "Land-Ocean: Global Means" and we want to skip it.

- read\_csv can automatically figure out the data types for each column, so you don't have to specify col\_types when you call read\_csv
- This file uses \*\*\* to indicate missing values instead of -99.99, so you will need to specify na="\*\*\*" in read\_csv.

For future reference, if you have a file that uses multiple different values to indicate missing values, you can give a vector of values to na in read\_csv: na = c("\*\*\*","-99.99", "NA", "") would tell read\_csv that if it finds any of the values "\*\*\*","-99.99","NA", or just a blank with nothing in it, any of those would correspond to a missing value, and should be indicated by NA in R.

Now read the file into R, using the read\_csv function, and assign the resulting tibble to a variable giss\_temp

```
giss_temp = read_csv(file.path(data_dir, "global_temp_land_sea.csv"),
                      skip = 1, na = "***", col_names = TRUE)
## Parsed with column specification:
## cols(
##
     Year = col_double(),
##
     Jan = col double(),
     Feb = col_double(),
##
##
     Mar = col_double(),
     Apr = col_double(),
##
##
     May = col_double(),
##
     Jun = col_double(),
##
     Jul = col_double(),
##
     Aug = col_double(),
##
     Sep = col_double(),
##
     Oct = col_double(),
##
     Nov = col_double(),
##
     Dec = col_double(),
     `J-D` = col_double(),
##
##
     D-N = col_double(),
##
     DJF = col_double(),
##
     MAM = col_double(),
##
     JJA = col_double(),
     SON = col double()
##
## )
# show the first 5 lines of giss_temp
head(giss_temp, 5)
## # A tibble: 5 x 19
```

Jun

Jul

Sep

Aug <dbl> <dbl>

Oct

Nov

Dec 'J-D' 'D-N'

May

Apr

```
## 1 1880 -0.17 -0.23 -0.08 -0.15 -0.09 -0.2 -0.17 -0.09 -0.14 -0.22 -0.21 -0.16 -0.16 NA NA -0
## 2 1881 -0.18 -0.13 0.04 0.06 0.07 -0.17 0.01 -0.02 -0.14 -0.2 -0.17 -0.06 -0.07 -0.08 -0.16 0
## 3 1882 0.18 0.15 0.06 -0.15 -0.14 -0.22 -0.15 -0.06 -0.14 -0.23 -0.15 -0.35 -0.1 -0.08 0.09 -0
## 4 1883 -0.28 -0.36 -0.12 -0.18 -0.17 -0.06 -0.07 -0.13 -0.21 -0.11 -0.23 -0.1 -0.17 -0.19 -0.33 -0
## 5 1884 -0.12 -0.08 -0.36 -0.39 -0.34 -0.34 -0.32 -0.27 -0.27 -0.24 -0.32 -0.3 -0.28 -0.26 -0.1 -0
```

Something is funny here: Each row corresponds to a year, but there are columns for each month, and some extra columns called "J-D", "D-N", "DJF", "MAM", "JJA", and "SON". These stand for average values for the year from January through December, the year from the previous December through November, and the seasonal averages for Winter (December, January, and February), Spring (March, April, and May), Summer (June, July, and August), and Fall (September, October, and November).

The temperatures are recorded not as the thermometer reading, but as *anomalies*. If we want to compare how temperatures are changing in different seasons and at different parts of the world, raw temperature measurements are hard to work with because summer is hotter than winter and Texas is hotter than Alaska, so it becomes difficult to compare temperatures in August to temperatures in January, or temperatures in Texas to temperatures in Alaska and tell whether there was warming.

To make it easier and more reliable to compare temperatures at different times and places, we define anomalies: The temperature anomaly is the difference between the temperature recorded at a certain location during a certain month and a baseline reference value, which is the average temperature for that month and location over a period that is typically 30 years.

The GISS temperature data uses a baseline reference period of 1951–1980, so for instance, the temperature anomaly for Nashville in July 2017 would be the monthly average temperature measured in Nashville during July 2017 minus the average of all July temperatures measured in Nashville from 1951–1980.

The GISS temperature data file then averages the temperature anomalies over all the temperature-measuring stations around the world and reports a global average anomaly for every month from January 1880 through the latest measurements available (currently, November 2019).

Let's focus on the months only. Use select to select just the columns for "Year" and January through December (if you are selecting a consecutive range of columns between "Foo" and "Bar", you can call select(Foo:Bar)). Save the result in a variable called giss\_monthly

```
giss_monthly = select(giss_temp, Year:Dec)
#
# alternately, you could remove unwanted columns:
#
# giss_monthly = select(giss_temp, -(`J-D`:SON))
#
# You have to use back-quotes for the column `J-D` because its name includes
# characters other than "a"-"z", "A"-"Z", "O"-"9", ".", and "_".
# You can give columns names with other characters than these, but it becomes
# more complicated to indicate them to R.
head(giss_monthly)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 13
##
              Jan
                    Feb
                          Mar
                                       May
                                             Jun
                                                    Jul
                                                                 Sep
                                                                       Oct
                                                                             Nov
                                                                                    Dec
                                 Apr
                                                           Aug
##
            <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <
                                                         <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1
      1880 -0.17
                  -0.23 -0.08 -0.15 -0.09 -0.2
                                                 -0.17 -0.09
                                                               -0.14 -0.22 -0.21 -0.16
## 2
     1881 -0.18
                 -0.13 0.04 0.06 0.07 -0.17 0.01 -0.02
                                                               -0.14 -0.2 -0.17 -0.06
                   0.15  0.06  -0.15  -0.14  -0.22  -0.15  -0.06
                                                               -0.14 -0.23 -0.15 -0.35
     1883 -0.28 -0.36 -0.12 -0.18 -0.17 -0.06 -0.07 -0.13
                                                              -0.21 -0.11 -0.23 -0.1
      1884 -0.12 -0.08 -0.36 -0.39 -0.34 -0.34 -0.32 -0.27 -0.27 -0.24 -0.32 -0.3
      1885 -0.570 -0.32 -0.25 -0.41 -0.44 -0.42 -0.32 -0.290 -0.27 -0.22 -0.22 -0.08
```

Next, it will be difficult to plot all of the data if the months are organized as columns. What we want is to transform the data tibble into one with three columns: "year", "month", and "anomaly". We can do this easily using the gather function from the tidyverse package: gather(df, key = month, value = anomaly, -Year) or df %>% gather(key = month, value = anomaly, -Year) will gather all of the columns except Year (the minus sign in select or gather means to include all columns except the ones indicated with a minus sign) and:

- Make a new tibble with three columns: "Year", "month", and "anomaly"
- For each row in the original tibble, make rows in the new tibble for each of the columns "Jan" through "Dec", putting the name of the column in "month" and the anomaly in "anomaly".

Here is an example of using gather, using the built-in data set presidents, which lists the quarterly approval ratings for U.S. presidents from 1945–1974:

```
df = presidents@.Data %>% matrix(ncol=4, byrow = TRUE) %>%
  as_tibble() \%\% set_names(paste0("Q", 1:4)) \%\%\% mutate(year = 1944 + seq(n()))
## Warning: `as_tibble.matrix()` requires a matrix with column names or a `.name_repair` argument. Usin
## This warning is displayed once per session.
print("First 10 rows of df are")
## [1] "First 10 rows of df are"
print(head(df, 10))
## # A tibble: 10 x 5
##
         Q1
               Q2
                     Q3
                            Q4 year
##
      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <
##
    1
         NA
               87
                     82
                            75 1945
   2
                     43
                            32 1946
##
         63
               50
##
   3
         35
               60
                     54
                            55 1947
               39
                           NA 1948
##
   4
         36
                     NA
##
   5
         69
               57
                     57
                            51 1949
##
   6
         45
               37
                     46
                            39 1950
##
   7
         36
               24
                     32
                            23 1951
##
    8
         25
               32
                     NA
                            32 1952
               74
   9
                     75
##
         59
                            60 1953
## 10
                     71
                            57 1954
```

For each year, the table has a column for the year and four columns (Q1 ... Q4) that hold the quarterly approval ratings for the president in that quarter. Now we want to gather these data into three columns: one column for the year, one column to indicate the quarter, and one column to indicate the approval rating.

We do this with the gather function from the tidyverse package.

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
     year quarter approval
##
     <dbl> <chr>
## 1 1945 Q1
                         87
## 2 1945 Q2
## 3 1945 Q3
                         82
## 4 1945 Q4
                         75
## 5 1946 Q1
                         63
## 6 1946 Q2
                         50
```

Now you try to do the same thing to:

- First select just the columns of giss\_monthly for the year and the individual months.
- Next, gather all the months togeher, so there will be three columns: one for the year, one for the name of the month, and one for the temperature anomaly in that month.
- Store the result in a new variable called giss\_g

```
giss_g = gather(giss_monthly, key = month, value = anomaly, -Year)
```

Remember how the CO<sub>2</sub> data had a column date that had a year plus a fraction that corresponded to the month, so June 1960 was 1960.4548?

Here is a trick that lets us do the same for the giss\_g data set. R has a data type called factor that it uses for managing categorical data, such as male versus female, Democrat versus Republican, and so on. Categorical factors have a textual label, but are silently represented as integer numbers. Normal factors don't have a special order, so R sorts the values alphabetically. However, there is another kind of factor called an ordered factor, which allows us to specify the order of the values.

We can use a built-in R variable called month. abb, which is a vector of abbreviations for months.

The following command will convert the month column in giss\_g into an ordered factor that uses the integer values 1, 2, ..., 12 to stand for "Jan", "Feb", ..., "Dec", and then uses those integer values to create a new column, date that holds the fractional year, just as the date column in mlo\_data did:

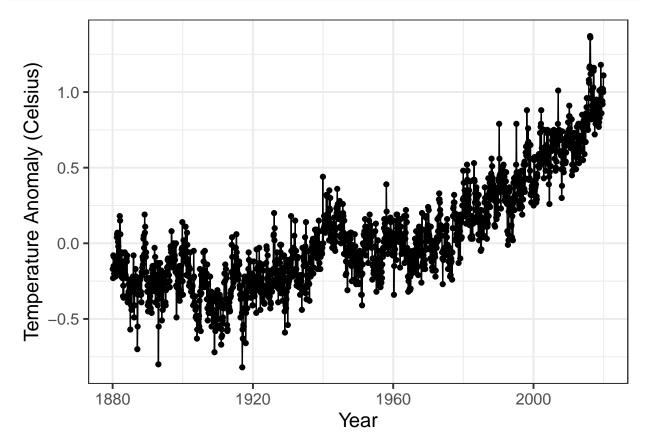
In the code above, ordered(month, levels = month.abb) converts the variable month from a character (text) variable that contains the name of the month to an ordered factor that associates a number with each month name, such that "Jan" = 1 and "Dec" = 12.

Then we create a new column called date to get the fractional year corresponding to that month. We have to explicitly convert the ordered factor into a number using the function as.integer(), and we subtract 0.5 because the time that corresponds to the average temperature for the month is the middle of the month.

Below, use code similar to what I put above to add a new date column to giss\_g.

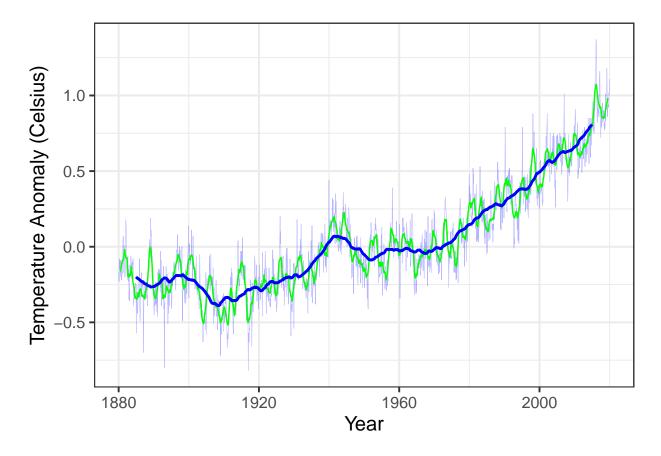
Now plot the monthly temperature anomalies versus date:

```
ggplot(giss_g, aes(x = date, y = anomaly)) +
  geom_line() +
  geom_point() +
  labs(x = "Year", y = "Temperature Anomaly (Celsius)")
```

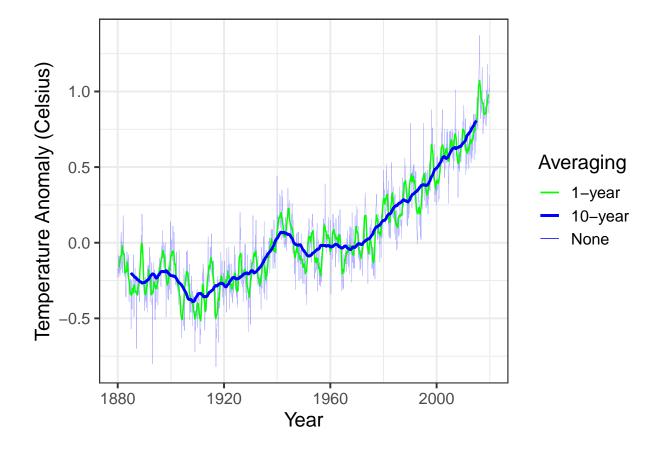


That plot probably doesn't look like much, because it's very noisy. Use the function rollapply from the package zoo to create new columns in giss\_g with 12-month and 10-year (i.e., 120-month) rolling averages of the anomalies.

Make a new plot in which you plot a thin blue line for the monthly anomaly (use geom\_line(aes(y = anomaly), color = "blue", alpha = 0.3, size = 0.1); alpha is an optional specification for transparency where 0 means invisible (completely transparent) and 1 means opaque), a medium dark green line for the one-year rolling average, and a thick dark blue line for the ten-year rolling average.



Alternately, we could do this fancier version:



The graph shows that temperature didn't show a steady trend until starting around 1970, so we want to isolate the data starting in 1970 and fit a linear trend to it.

To select only rows of a tibble that match a condition, we use the function filter from the tidyverse package:

data\_subset = df %>% filter( conditions ), where df is your original tibble and conditions stands for whatever conditions you want to apply. You can make a simple condition using equalities or inequalities:

- data\_subset = df %>% filter( month == "Jan") to select all rows where the month is "Jan"
- data\_subset = df %>% filter( month != "Aug") to select all rows where the month is not August.
- data\_subset = df %>% filter( month %in% c("Sep", "Oct", "Nov") to select all rows where the month is one of "Sep", "Oct", or "Nov".
- data\_subset = df %>% filter(year >= 1945) to select all rows where the year is greater than or equal to 1945.
- data\_subset = df %>% filter(year >= 1951 & year <= 1980 ) to select all rows where the year is between 1951 and 1980, inclusive.
- data\_subset = df %>% filter(year >= 1951 | month == "Mar") to select all rows where the year is greater than or equal to 1951 or the month is "Mar". this will give all rows from January 1951 onward, plus all rows before 1951 where the month is March.

Below, create a new variable giss\_recent and assign it a subset of giss\_g that has all the data from January 1970 through the present. Fit a linear trend to the monthly anomaly and report it.

What is the average change in temperature from one year to the next?

#### **Did Global Warming Stop after 1998?**

## 2 date

It is a common skeptic talking point that global warming stopped in 1998. In years with strong El Niños, global temperatures tend to be higher and in years with strong La Niñas, global temperatures tend to be lower. We will discuss why later in the semester.

47.1 2.13e-203

The year 1998 had a particularly strong El Niño, and the year set a record for global temperature that was not exceeded for several years. Indeed, compared to 1998, it might look as though global warming paused for many years.

We will examine whether this apparent pause has scientific validity.

0.0189 0.000401

To begin with, we will take the monthly GISS temperature data and convert it to annual average temperatures, so we can deal with discrete years, rather than separate temperatures for each month.

We do this with the group\_by and summarize functions.

We also want to select only recent data, so we arbitrarily say we will look at temperatures starting in 1979, which gives us 19 years before the 1998 El Ni~o.

We don't have a full year of data for 2017, so we want to discard that because we won't get a full year average from it.

If we go back to the original giss\_g data tibble, run the following code:

```
giss_annual = giss_g %>%
  filter(Year >= 1979 & Year < 2017) %>%
  group_by(Year) %>%
  summarize(anomaly = mean(anomaly)) %>%
  ungroup() %>%
  mutate(date = Year + 0.5)
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
##
     Year anomaly date
##
    <dbl>
           <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 1979
          0.164 1980.
## 2 1980 0.257 1980.
## 3 1981
          0.321 1982.
## 4 1982
          0.135 1982.
## 5 1983
           0.308 1984.
## 6 1984
           0.154 1984.
```

This code groups the giss data by the year, so that one group will have January–December 1979, another will have January–December 1980, and so forth.

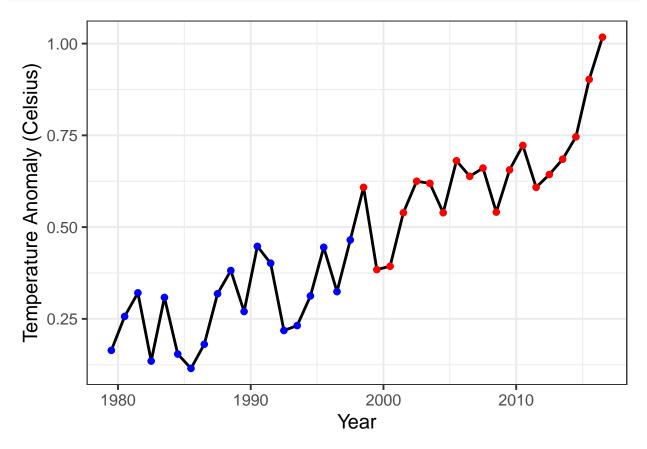
Then we replace the groups of 12 rows for each year (each row represents one month) with a single row that represents the average of those 12 months.

It is important to tell R to ungroup the data after we're done working with the groups.

Finally, we set date to year + 0.5 because the average of a year corresponds to the middle of the year, not the beginning.

Now, let's introduce a new column after, which indicates whether the data is after the 1998 El Niño:

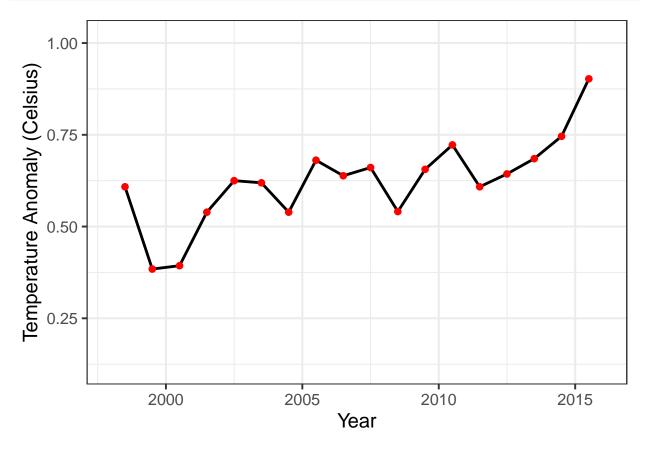
Now plot the data and color the points for 1998 and afterward dark red to help us compare before and after 1998.



Does it look as though the red points are not rising as fast as the blue points?

Let's just plot the data from 1998 on:

```
ggplot(giss_annual, aes(x = date, y = anomaly)) +
  geom_line(size = 1) +
```



Now how does it look?

Let's use the filter function to break the data into two different tibbles: giss\_before will have the data from 1979–1998 and the other, giss\_after will have the data from 1998 onward (note that the year 1998 appears in both tibbles).

```
giss_before = filter(giss_annual, Year <= 1998)
giss_after = filter(giss_annual, Year >= 1998)
```

Now use lm to fit a linear trend to the temperature data in giss\_before (from 1979–1998) and assign it to a variable giss\_trend.

Next, add a column timing to each of the split data sets and set the value of this column to "Before" for giss\_before and "After" for giss\_after.

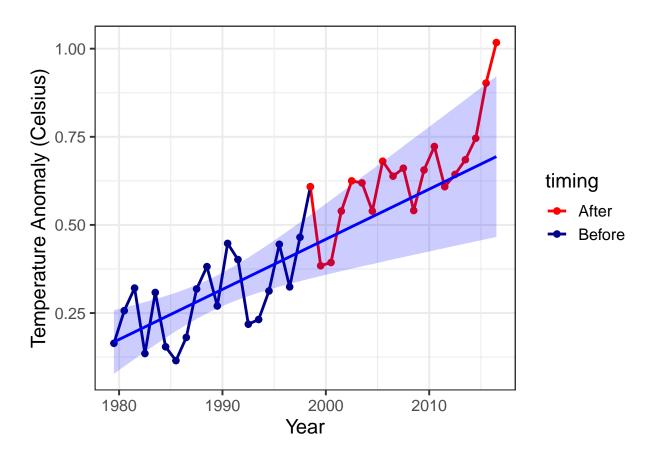
```
giss_before = mutate(giss_before, timing = "Before")
giss_after = mutate(giss_after, timing = "After")
giss_trend = lm(anomaly ~ date, data = giss_before)
tidy(giss_trend)
## # A tibble: 2 x 5
```

Now, combine the two tibbles into one tibble:

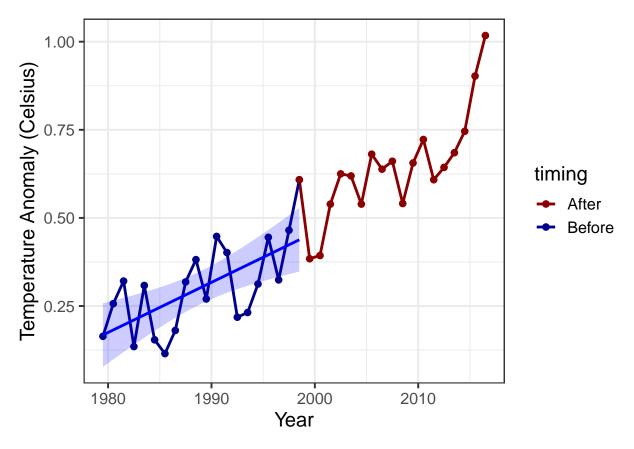
```
giss_combined <- bind_rows(giss_before, giss_after)</pre>
```

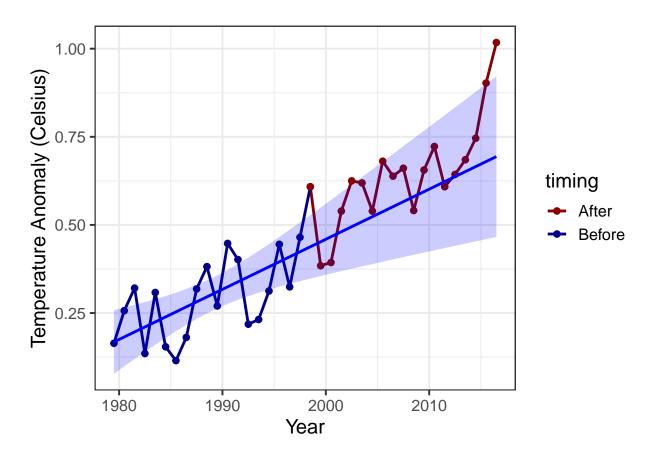
Now let's use ggplot to plot giss\_combined:

- Aesthetic mapping:
  - Use the date column for the x variable.
  - Use the anomaly column for the y variable.
  - Use the timing column to set the color of plot elements
- Plot both lines and points.
  - Set the size of the lines to 1
  - Set the size of the points to 2
- Use the scale\_color\_manual function to set the color of "Before" to "blue" and "After" to "red"
- Use geom\_smooth(data = giss\_before, method="lm", color = "blue", fill = "blue", alpha = 0.2, fullrange = TRUE) to show a linear trend that is fit just to the giss\_before data.



Try this with the parameter fullrange set to TRUE and FALSE in the geom\_smooth function. What is the difference?





**Answer:** Both plots show the full data set, and a linear trend that is fit just to the "before" data. The trend line shows both the best fit for a trend (that's the solid line) and the range of uncertainty in the fit (that's the light blue shaded area around the line).

But, when fullrange = FALSE, the line is only drawn for the data to which the trend was fit, whereas when fullrange = TRUE, the trend line is drawn for the full range of the graph, even though the trend was only fit to the data in part of the graph.

If the temperature trend changed after 1998 (e.g., if the warming paused, or if it reversed and started cooling) then we would expect the temperature measurements after 1998 to fall predominantly below the extrapolated trend line, and our confidence that the trend had changed would depend on the number of points that fall below the shaded uncertainty range.

How many of the red points fall below the trend line?

**Answer:** 6 points: 1999, 2000, 2008, 2011, 2012, and 2013.

How many of the red points fall above the trend line?

**Answer:** Not counting 1998, 12 points: 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 (barely), 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2010, 2014, 2015, and 2016.

What do you conclude about whether global warming paused or stopped after 1998?

**Answer:** Most of the years after 1998 were warmer than we would have predicted if temperatures had continued to follow the warming trends of 1979–1998, so this is not evidence of any slow-down or pause in the warming.